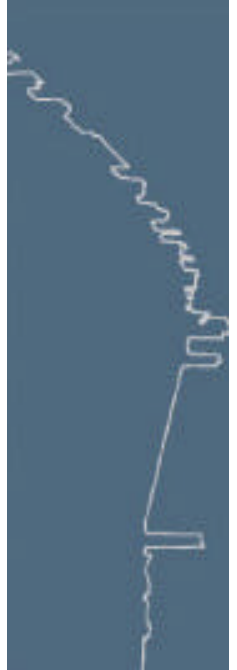


Seattle's Central Waterfront Plan Charrette 2004



Department of Planning and Development
City of Seattle, Greg Nickels, Mayor



Reverse Evolution



Reverse Evolution...a people-friendly,
fish-friendly, eco-friendly waterfront
for a 21st century city

TEAM 9

Team Narrative

Team 9: Reverse Evolution

Team “Reverse Evolution” created “a people-friendly, fish-friendly, eco-friendly waterfront for a 21st century city.” The plan was active and urban, wild and playful, transforming under-used landscapes into high-caliber urban amenities. Noting Seattle’s paucity of major downtown parks, Reverse Evolution dramatically expands the total open space available to Seattle residents.

In 1894, the Duwamish Estuary’s mudflats, streams and marshes teemed with life. Over time, the river has been straightened to support industry, thus depleting the river’s biodiversity. Team 9 joins long-term restoration efforts in reversing the damage done to this essential ecosystem. Reverse Evolution dramatically restores shoreline habitat by eroding the banks of Terminal 46 so that it begins to once again look and function like a river delta. Terminal 46 becomes Duwamish Basin Park in an effort to redevelop 88 acres for needed parklands, sports fields, high-density housing, and commercial uses and a school of ecology. Taking cues from nature, replicated coves, canals and mudflats restore habitat while providing a place for outdoor recreation and education.

Near Pike Place, a green roofed hilltown of meandering streets tumbles down the slope from the Market to the waterfront. And between the Olympic Sculpture Park and a water-focused Vine Street, an esplanade of retail shops and artist lofts creates a cultural corridor along Elliott Bay.

Team Participants

Team 9: Reverse Evolution

Charlie Cunniff

Nora Daley

Dayna Dealy

Tammy Frick

Roger Gula

Brian Kenny

Jon McNamara

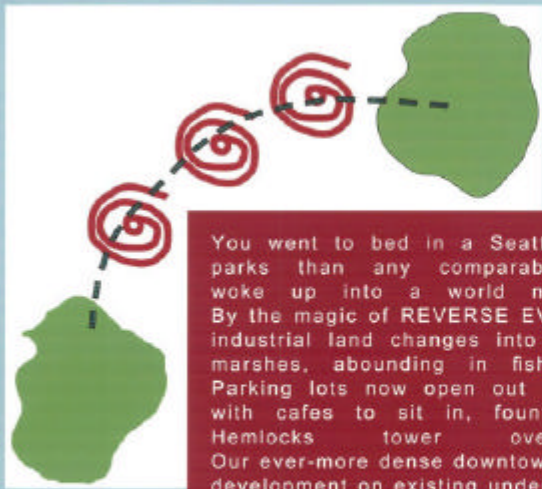
Scott Melborne

Tien Peng

Nancy Rottle

Brian Steinburg

Philip Wohlsletter



You went to bed in a Seattle with fewer downtown parks than any comparable major city. You woke up into a world newly green and lush. By the magic of **REVERSE EVOLUTION**, under-utilized industrial land changes into mud flats, streams and marshes, abounding in fish and migratory birds. Parking lots now open out into spectacular plazas with cafes to sit in, fountains to linger around. Hemlocks tower over steep banks. Our ever-more dense downtown, boosted by urban infill development on existing underutilized sites, provides a constant stream of people. The streets of Royal Brougham Way, Yesler Way, Madison, Pike Street/Lenora, Vine are ladders that lead them back down to the water's edge. Everywhere, life hums and buzzes. Let's call them **EDDIES**, these charged and vibrant areas, these zones where downtown and neighborhood residents and tourists and art and the prodigies of nature intermingle freely. In braiding these eddies together with streams and pedestrian promenades, we create an urbane pastoral that extends from the Olympic Sculpture Park in the north to the spectacular Duwamish Basin Park on the site of Terminal 46 in the south. **REVERSE EVOLUTION**...a people-friendly, fish-friendly, eco-friendly waterfront for a 21st century city.



proposed green space

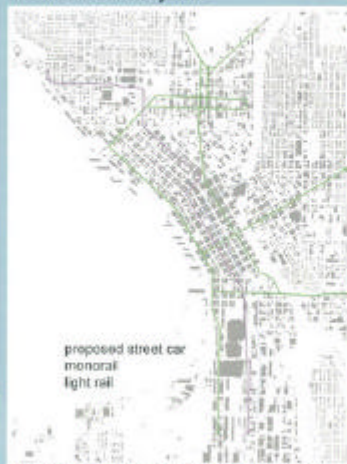


utilizes opportunity for open space at T-45. 30 acres to share with development and the public... experience recreation, serenity and activity.

existing green space



intermodal transit system



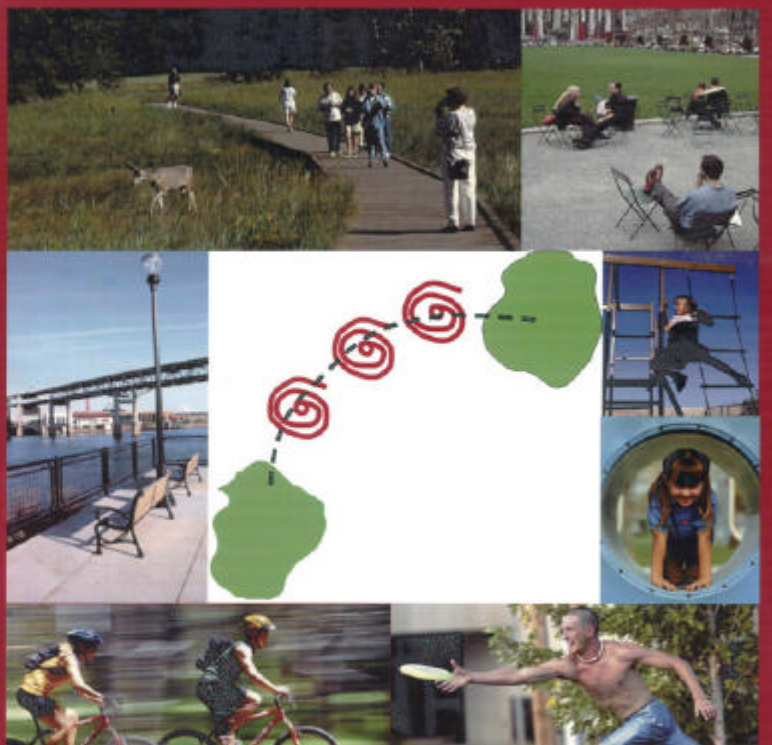
connects the neighborhoods to downtown and the waterfront. take the trolley from South Lake Union, Fremont, the I-5 or Pioneer Square, catch the monorail for further connections. It's all about connections.

proposed infill development and current "developer" plan



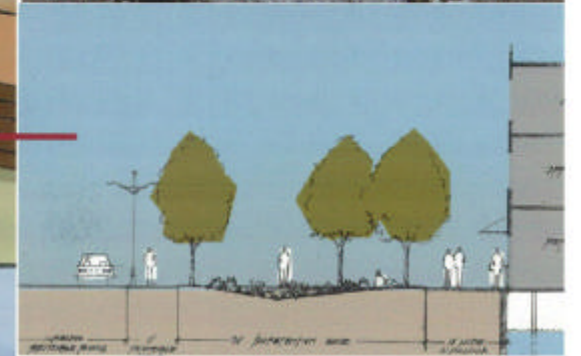
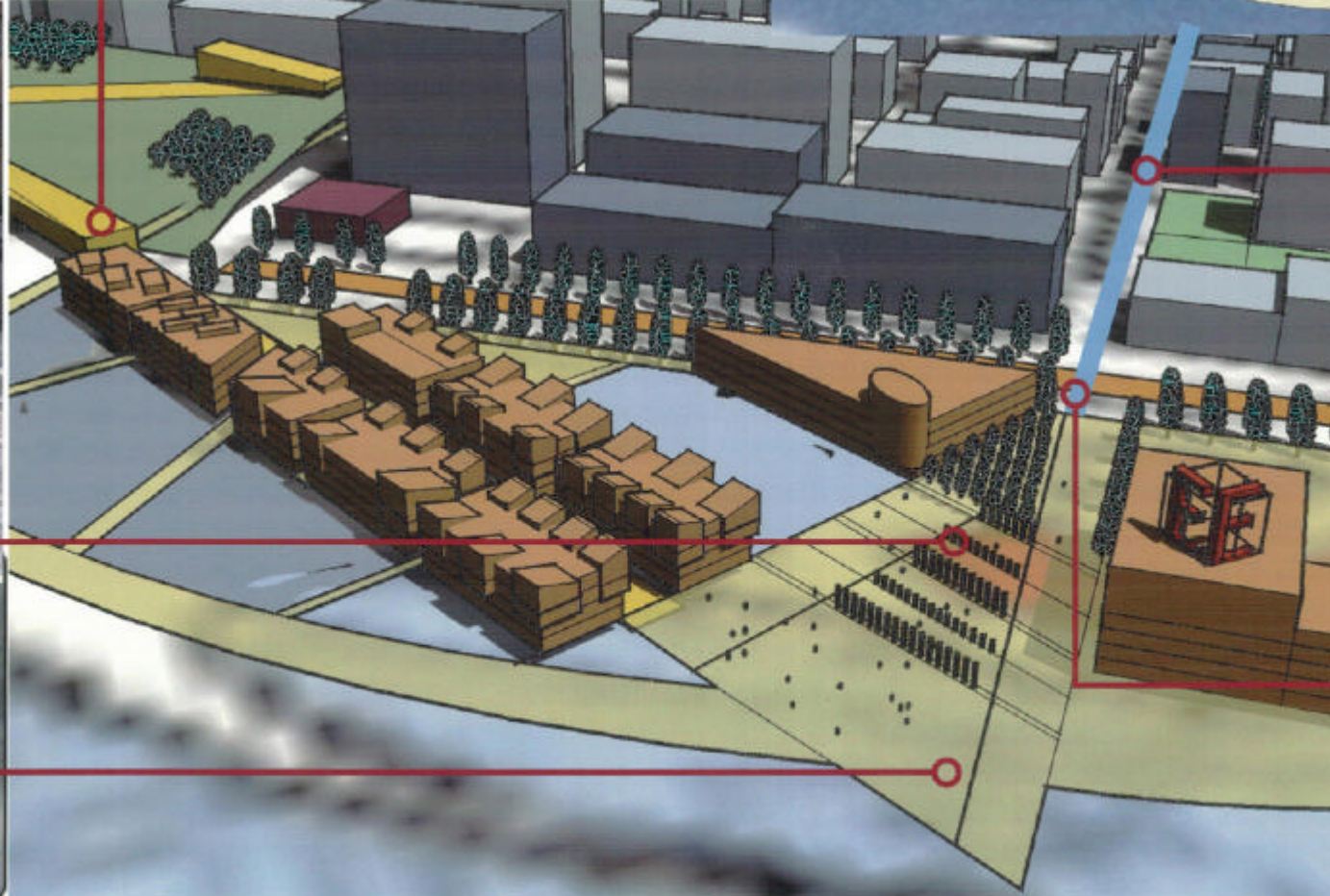
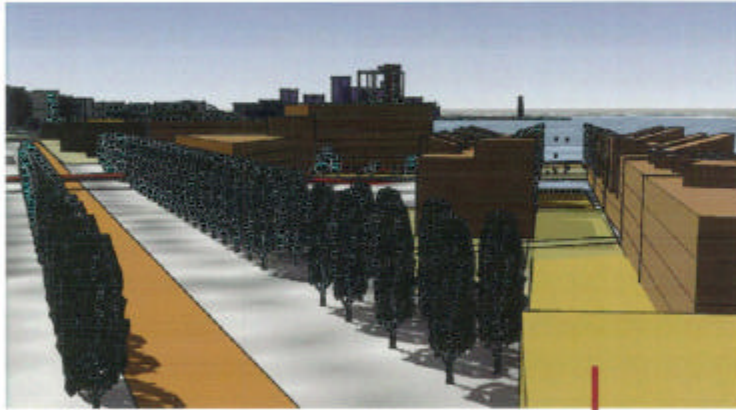
a current plan exists that would fill in terminal 45 with dense housing and a few small parks but lacks major public open space. our proposal adds housing and schools to cityside of terminal 46, utilizes existing infrastructure downtown to fill in neighborhood gaps while leaving large public open space at T-45. this could be the last chance for a large scale park downtown necessary to attract more residents.

REVERSE EVOLUTION



vine

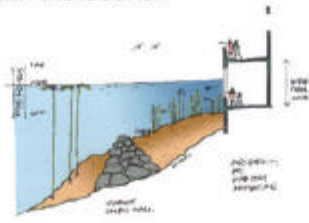
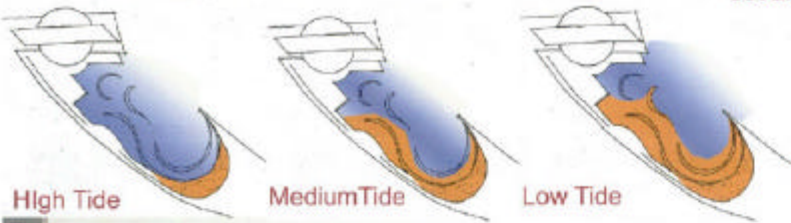
Water rules Vine Street. Water as pure sensuous flow, water as cleanser and restorer. It nourishes the Belltown Pea Patch, now enlarged to an entire city block. It pours into the rough stone channel which runs like an open aqueduct along widened sidewalks. It turns the path down to the shore into pure spectacle. An array of splashing jets on the pier allows nature and artifice to joust for advantage. Here glass blocks and vast open areas provide light for habitat below. To the south, in the distance, is Duwamish basin park. North along the Olympic Sculpture Park Axis is an esplanade flanked on both sides by low buildings offering cafes and shops at street level, and artist housing and offices in the upper stories. A renovated Edgewater preserves a link to our history. How did we miss it before? The E on top stands for ecstasy.



hilltown

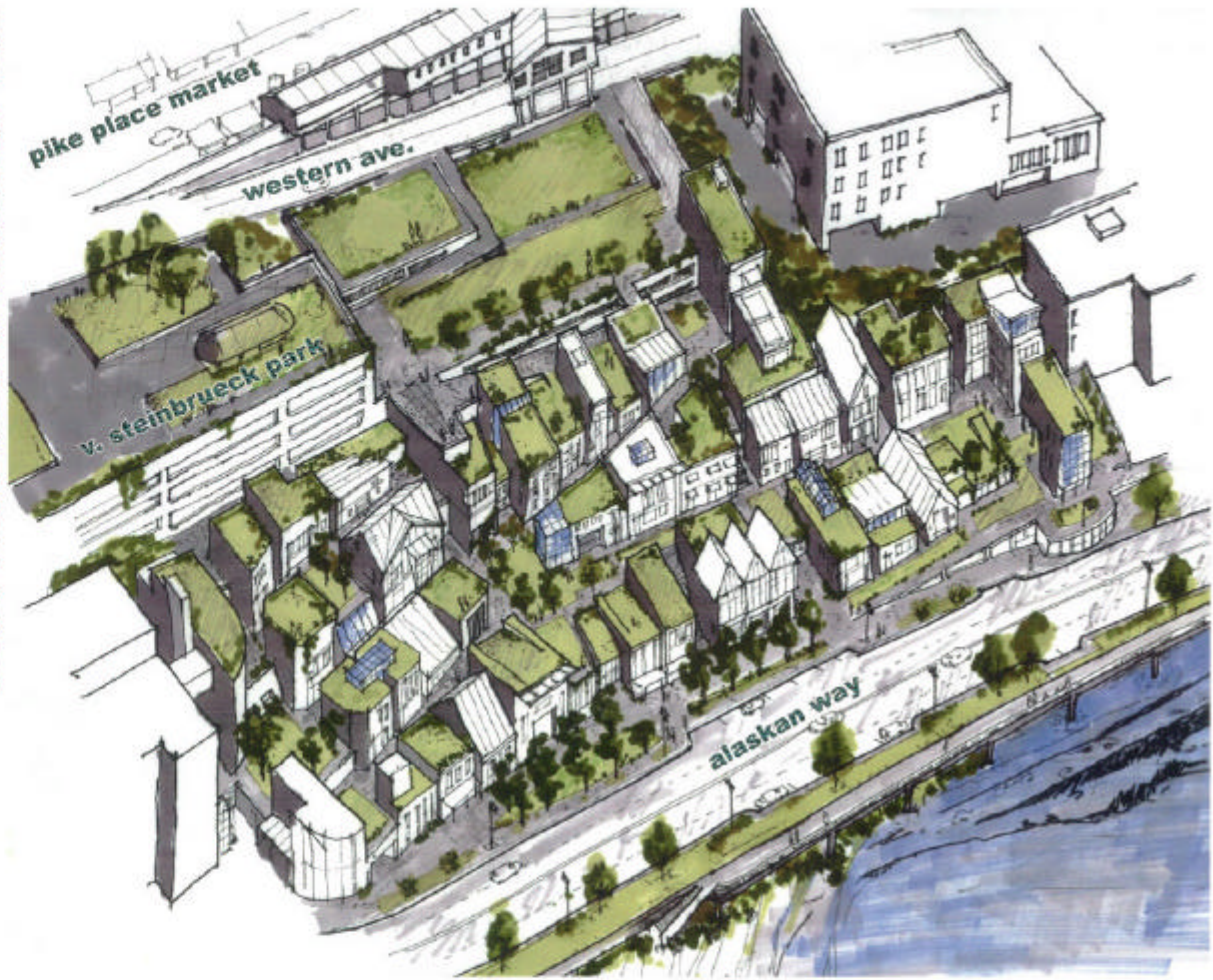
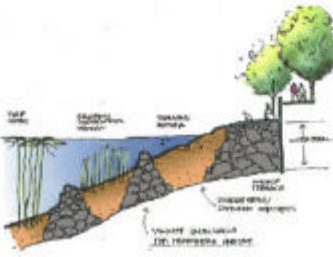


Why not a hilltown? Why not an inspired jumble of tucked together houses, artist live-work space, and galleries fashioned from the most diverse building materials, winding sinuously down from the top of Victor Steinbrueck Park to the foot of Pike/ Lenora? Why not gardens and balconies and green roofs that serve as tiny public squares for the traveler who wanders onto them while switchbacking down to the water? Why not alleys between building that open onto sudden panoramas of Mount Rainier, Elliot Bay, the Olympics? Why not a labyrinth in which to get lost and found? Why not a Pike Place Market that extends down to the edge of shore, cafes to the right of you, shops to the left of you? Why not a hurry path that gets you quickly down the hill and a wander path that zigzags past coffee stops and artisans working in the open? Why not sea-steps at the shoreline so when you've finished your hurried or unhurried descent you can walk out and touch the Sound?



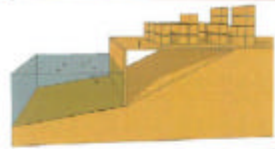
Refugia

The deconstructed viaduct gives new life to Elliot Bay. Viaduct caim walls retain marine sediments creating habitat, refuge, seal perches, and an intertidal kitchen. Seattleites meet Puget Sound marine life through underwater viewing and water level tidal terraces.

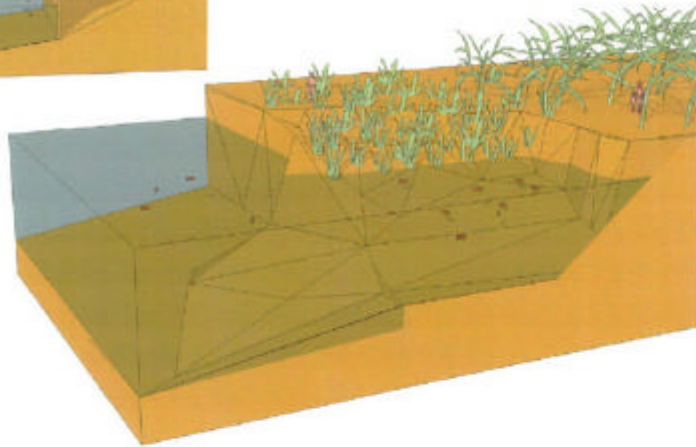


duwamish basin park

1



puncturing bulkhead = habitat



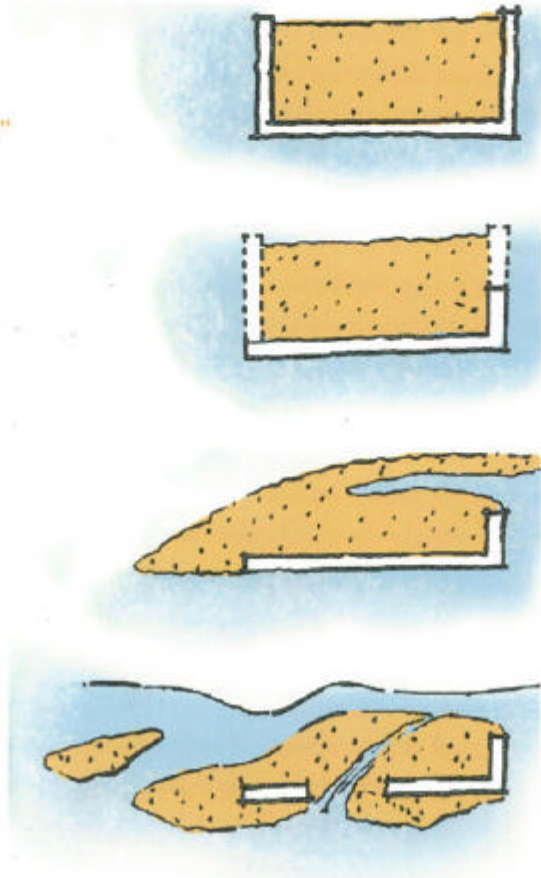
I think I'll take a walk on the wild side. I think I'll stroll the mudflats and the marshlands. I think I'll follow paths carved by shifting river currents that, through time, have reshaped Terminal 46. I think I'll rent a kayak. I think I'll picnic with my family. I think I'll lie back on a mound and gaze at...what? (The new K through 12 eco-school? The Mariner fans streaming down Royal Brougham on their way to the game? The photo-voltaic roof panels on the high-density housing along Alaskan Way?) I think I'll play soccer. I think I'll ride my bike along the National Greenway Trail that begins in Boston harbor and ends right here at Elliot Bay. I think I'll haunt tidal pools and estuaries. I think I'll cross wooden bridges over hidden streams. I think I'll linger. Green thoughts. Duwamish Basin Park.

1894

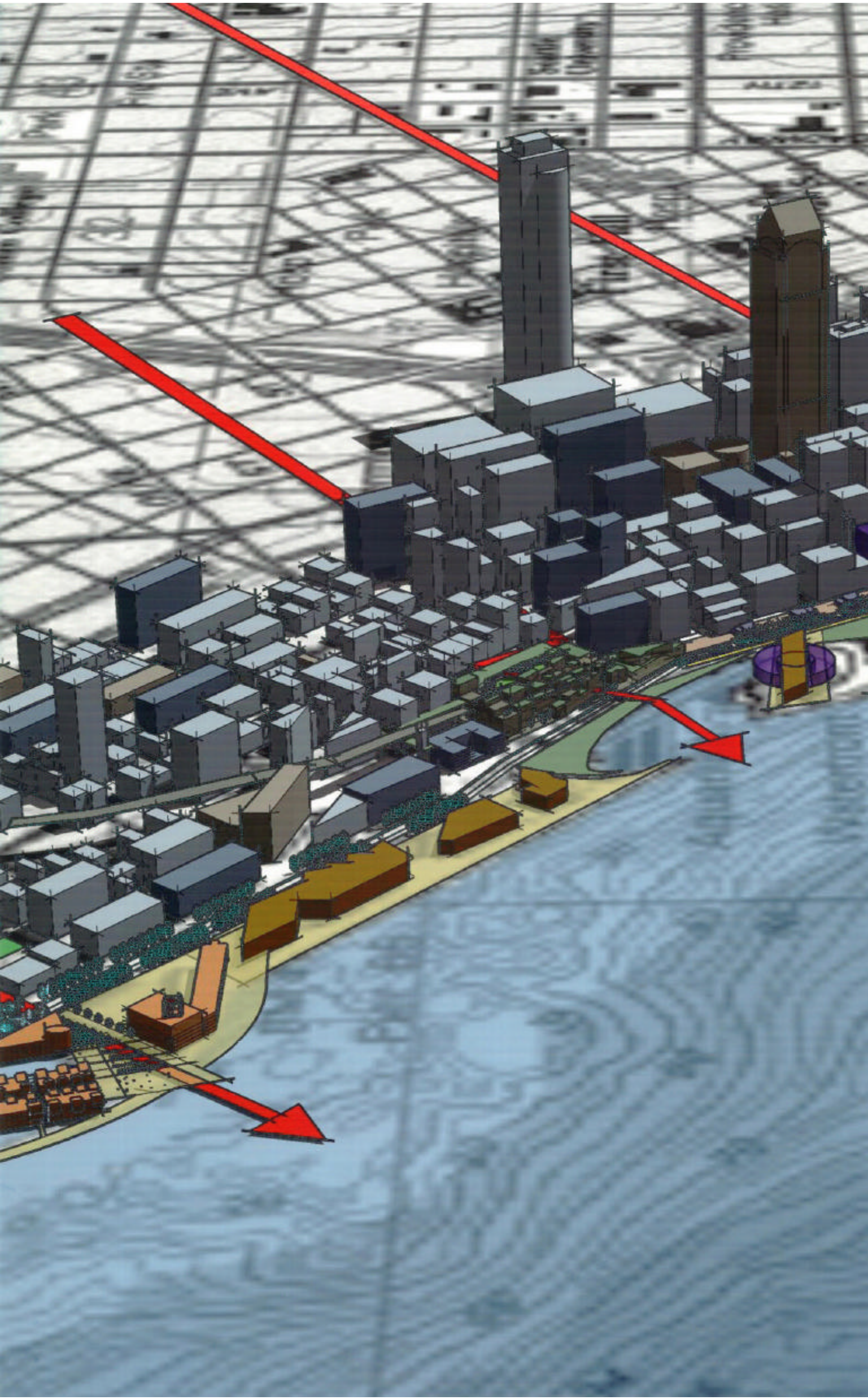
2004

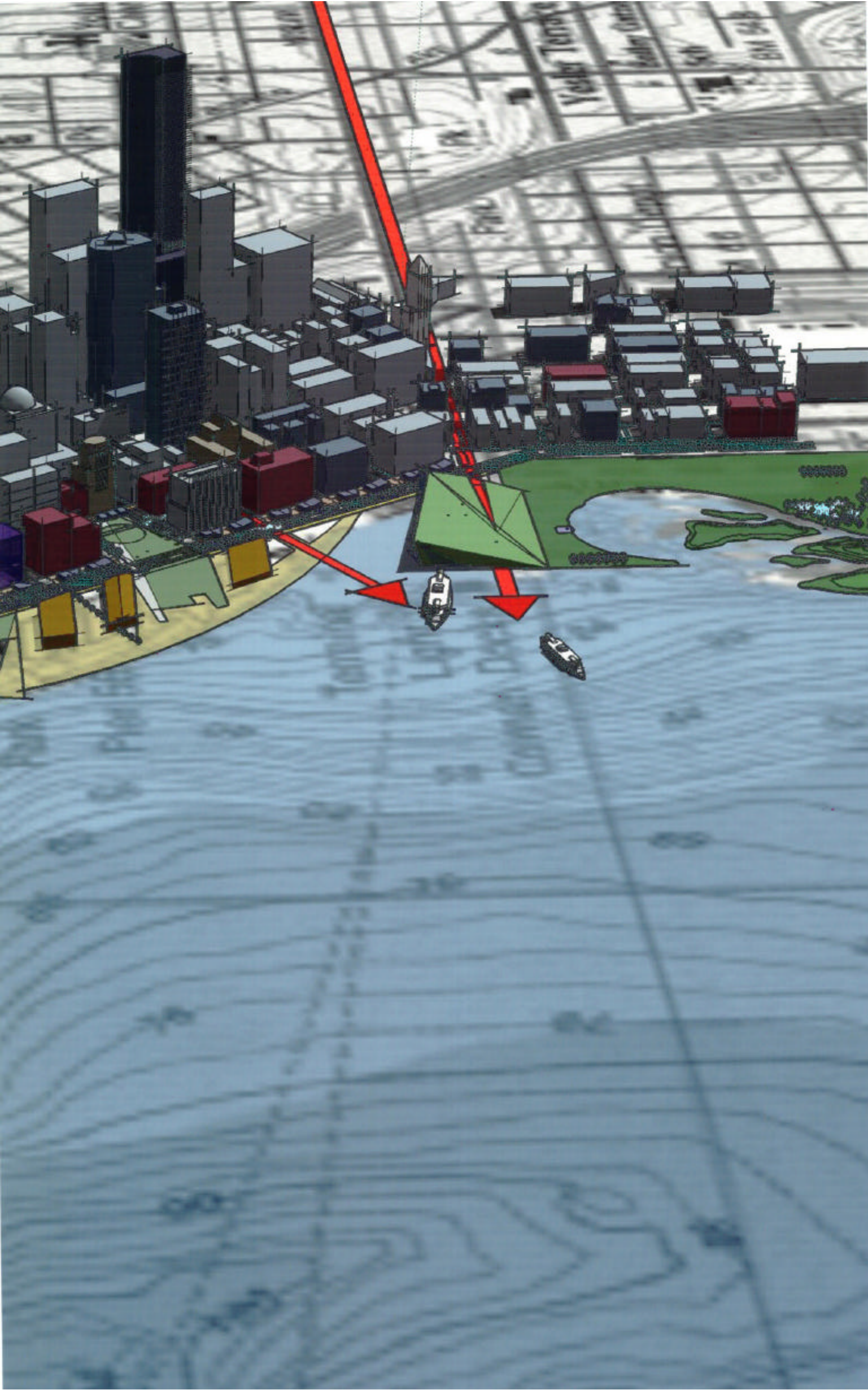
2030

"inverted bathtub"









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